

We claim:

1. A method of treatment of a degenerative cartilage condition comprising the step of administering a sufficient quantity of at least one glycosidase inhibitor.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said treatment is selected from the group consisting of curing a degenerative cartilage condition, treating said degenerative cartilage condition, preventing said degenerative cartilage condition, and lessening the severity of said degenerative cartilage condition.
- 5 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said degenerative cartilage condition is selected from the group consisting of osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, synovitis, subchondral bone edema and cartilage degradation.
- 10 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said treatment of said degenerative cartilage condition is by the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a cocktail.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said cocktail is comprised of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one glycosidase inhibitor and a therapeutically effective amount of a therapeutic molecule additive.
- 15 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said therapeutic molecule additive is selected from the group consisting of anti-inflammatory agents and aminosugars.
7. The method of claim 4, wherein said cocktail is comprised of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one glycosidase inhibitor, a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-inflammatory agent, and a therapeutically effective amount of an aminosugar.
- 20 8. The method of claim 1, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of iminocyclitol-based glycosidase inhibitors and non-iminocyclitol-based glycosidase inhibitors.
- 25 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said non-iminocyclitol-based glycosidase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of hexosaminidase inhibitors and glucuronidase inhibitors.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor has a specific activity against a glycosidase.
- 30 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said glycosidase is selected from the group consisting of hexosaminidases, glucuronidases, endoglycosidases and exoglycosidases.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein said degenerative cartilage condition results in a further condition.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said further condition is selected from the group consisting of arthritis, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory joint disease, and traumatic joint disease.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein said administration is by a route selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intra-vascular administration, intra-articular administration, intra-muscular administration, and topical administration.
- 5 15. The method of claim 1, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is formulated in a sustained release formulation or a controlled release formulation.
- 10 16. The method of claim 1, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is administered using a delivery device.
17. The method of claim 16, wherein said delivery device is an Alzet pump.
18. A method of treating an inflammatory condition comprising the step of administering to a subject in need thereof a quantity of at least one glycosidase inhibitor sufficient to treat the condition.
- 15 19. The method of claim 18, wherein said treatment is selected from the group consisting of curing said inflammatory condition, treating said inflammatory condition, preventing said inflammatory condition, and lessening the severity of said inflammatory condition.
- 20 20. The method of claim 18, wherein said administration is by a route selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intra-vascular administration, intra-articular administration, intra-muscular administration, and topical administration.
21. The method of claim 18, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is formulated in a sustained release formulation or a controlled release formulation.
22. The method of claim 18, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is administered by a delivery device.
- 25 23. The method of claim 22, wherein said delivery device is an Alzet pump.
24. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a degenerative cartilage condition, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is comprised of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one glycosidase inhibitor and a therapeutically effective amount of at least one therapeutic molecule additive.
- 30 30 25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said therapeutic molecule additive is selected from the group consisting of anti-inflammatory agents and aminosugars.

26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is comprised of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one glycosidase inhibitor, a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-inflammatory agent, and a therapeutically effective amount of an aminosugar.
- 5 27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is comprised of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one glycosidase inhibitor and a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-inflammatory agent.
- 10 27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is comprised of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one glycosidase inhibitor and a therapeutically effective amount of an aminosugar.
- 15 28. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said treatment is selected from the group consisting of curing a degenerative cartilage condition, treating said degenerative cartilage condition, preventing said degenerative cartilage condition, and lessening the severity of said degenerative cartilage condition.
29. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said degenerative cartilage condition is selected from the group consisting of osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, synovitis, subchondral bone edema and cartilage degradation.
30. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of iminocyclitol-based glycosidase inhibitors and non-iminocyclitol-based glycosidase inhibitors.
- 20 31. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said non-iminocyclitol-based glycosidase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of hexosaminidase inhibitors and glucuronidase inhibitors.
- 25 32. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor has a specific activity against a glycosidase.
33. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said glycosidase is selected from the group consisting of hexosaminidases, glucuronidases, endoglycosidases and exoglycosidases.
- 30 34. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is formulated in a sustained release formulation or a controlled release formulation.
35. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is administered using a delivery device.

36. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein said delivery device is an Alzet pump.
37. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of an inflammatory condition comprising:
 - 5 (a) at least one glycosidase inhibitor in a quantity sufficient to treat the inflammatory condition; and
 - (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
38. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37, wherein said treatment is selected from the group consisting of curing said inflammatory condition, treating said 10 inflammatory condition, preventing said inflammatory condition, and lessening the severity of said inflammatory condition.
39. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is formulated in a sustained release formulation or a controlled release formulation.
40. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37, wherein said glycosidase inhibitor is 15 administered by a delivery device.
41. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 40, wherein said delivery device is an Alzet pump.